

Message Text

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PAGE 01 Lening 00559 211245Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 HA-05 CA-01 SY-05

NSCE-00 SSO-00 /034 W

-----106207 211247Z /43/17

O 181050Z FEB 78

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4015

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 5. CORRECTED)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, UR

SUBJ: AIRPORT DETENTION CASE: ALVIN AND ANITA GRAY

1. SUMMARY: AMCITS ALVIN AND ANITA GRAY WERE DETAINED FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT THE CUSTOMS CHECKOUT POINT OF LENINGRAD'S PULKOVO AIRPORT. THEY MISSED THEIR FLIGHT TO LONDON AND WERE RESCHEDULED TO DEPART LENINGRAD SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 FOR NEW YORK VIA HELSINKI. THEY WERE ADVISED TO CONTACT AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UPON ARRIVAL. END SUMMARY.

2. POST RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL ABOUT 1300 FEBRUARY 17 FROM I.M. DANILOV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF PULKOVO AIRPORT CUSTOMS THAT TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS, MR. AND MRS. GRAY, HAD BEEN FOUND IN POSSESSION OF CERTAIN ANTI-SOVIET MATERIALS WHICH THEY HAD NOT DECLARED TO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS. DANILOV STATED THAT ON THE BASIS OF THESE MATERIALS THE GRAYS HAD BEEN TOLD THEY WERE SUBJECT TO A PERSONAL SEARCH BUT THAT THEY HAD DECLARED THEIR REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCH A SEARCH. DANILOV AGREED NOT TO ENFORCE SEARCH UNTIL CONGENOFF COULD ARRIVE AT AIRPORT AND SEE GRAYS.

3. THE MATERIALS FOUND ON GRAY INCLUDED ONLY XEROXED COPIES OF JEWISH EMIGRATION MATERIALS IN ENGLISH WHICH HE BROUGHT WITH HIM FROM THE USA AND SOME ADDRESSES OF

REFUSENIKS WHICH HE ALSO CLAIMED HE HAD BROUGHT FROM THE US. HE STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN TO VISIT REFUSENIKS AND DISSIDENTS IN MOSCOW INCLUDING MRS. IRINA ORLOVA AND MRS. SAKHAROVA WHOM HE MET AT ORLOVA'S APARTMENT. HIS ADDRESSES INCLUDED THOSE OF MEYMAN, BRAYLOVSKIY, AND SLEPAK.

4. CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES REJECTED CONGENOFF'S REQUEST THAT THEY NOT ENFORCE THE BODY SEARCH BUT ACCEDED TO GRAY'S DEMAND THAT CONGENOFF WITNESS GRAY'S SEARCH AND THAT RAY WITNESS WIFE'S SEARCH. THE SEARCH COULD BE DESCRIBED AS PERFUNCTORY, AND BOTH GRAYS REPORTED THEY FELT THEY HAD GOTTEN BY LIGHTLY.

5. MR. AND MRS. GRAY WERE ASKED BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS TO SIGN PROTOCOLS OF THE SEARCH WHICH WERE TRANSLATED TO THEM BY CONGENOFF. MRS. GRAY'S PROTOCOL STATED NOTHING HAD BEEN FOUND. MR. GRAY'S PROTOCOL STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE HAD BEEN FOUND QUOTE NOTES OF A TENDENTIOUS CHARACTER ON THE SO-CALLED JEWISH QUESTION END QUOTE, BUT THESE WERE THE SAME NOTES THAT HAD BEEN DISCOVERED IN MR. GRAY'S POCKETS (#) THE SEARCH, BUT MR. GRAY WAS ASKED TO WRITE ANEXPLANATION OF WHY HE HAD NOT DECLARED THESE MATERIALS. HE WROTE THAT HE DID NOT KNOW THE ITEMS WERE ANTI-SOVIET; TO THE RE-(#) HE OBTAINED THE MATERIALS, HE DEMURRED AND WROTE, AS THE CUSTOMS OFFICIAL SUGGESTED, THAT HE HAD FORGOTTEN. THIS STATEMENT WAS SEPARATE FROM THE PROTOCOLS, AND BOTH MR. AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MRS. GRAY DECLINED TO WRITE COMMENTS ON THE LATTER DOCU-(#) OF DOCUMENTS CONCERNING A "TRIAL", BUT NO SUCH DOCUMENTS WERE SEEN AND THE MATTER WAS HASTILY DROPPED. COMMENT: SINCE SEVERAL PERSONS, INCLUDING TWO PLAINCLOTHESMEN, WERE PRESENT AT THE PROCEEDINGS, AUTHORITIES MAY HAVE SUSPECTED THAT THE GRAYS WOULD ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT SOME MATERIALS ON THE ORLOV OR SHCHARANSKIY CASES. END COMMENT.

6. IT PROVED IMPOSSIBLE TO BOOKGRAYS ON ANY OTHER FRIDAY FLIGHT FROM LENINGRAD AND THEY WERE PROVIDED ACCOMMODATIONS IN DOWNTOWN HOTEL AND WERE GIVEN ONE DAY EXTENSION OF THEIR VISAS. THEY WERE SEEN OFF FROM LENINGRAD BY CONGENOFF. THEIR ITINERARY IS:

DEPART LENINGRAD AY713 FEB 18 11:35
ARRIVE HELSINKI AY713 FEB 18 11:25
DEPART HELSINKI AY111 FEB 18 14:30
ARRIVE NEW YORK JFK AY111 FEB 18 15:30

7. EMBASSY HELSINKI REQUESTED NOTIFY POST ARRIVAL THERE OF GRAYS. BUCHANAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LENING00559
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780084-0562, D780076-0048
Format: TEL
From: LENINGRAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780238/aaaabfos.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: aeed07d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3549525
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIRPORT DETENTION CASE: ALVIN AND ANITA GRAY
TAGS: CASC, UR, (GRAY, ALVIN), (GRAY, ANITA)
To: STATE HELSINKI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/aeed07d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014